CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of varying gloss in hard copy output from a hard copy output engine comprises:

providing a user with a user-adjustable control for varying hard copy output gloss; and

varying at least one processing parameter in producing the hard copy output in response to user adjustment of the user-adjustable control to provide a first user-selected gloss level over a first portion of a page of hard copy output.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

sensing achieved gloss levels in hard copy output from the hard copy output engine; and

varying at least one processing parameter in producing the hard copy output in response to both the sensed achieved gloss level and user adjustment of the user-adjustable control.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein varying gloss in hard copy output includes varying gloss in a hard copy output engine that employs dry powdered material as for pigmentation of the hard copy medium.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein varying at least one parameter includes supplying a gloss modification agent to the hard copy medium during generation of the hard copy output.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein varying at least one parameter includes varying at least one parameter chosen from a list consisting of: Toner Mass Density; Media Gloss; Fusing Temperature; Fusing Pressure; Fusing Time; Cooling Rate; Nip Geometry; Auxiliary Heat; Number Of Passes; Use Of Multi-Gloss Toner; Special Hard Copy Media Or Treatments; and Using Additional Toner Cartridge(s) For Applying A "Gloss Enhancement", "Gloss Modification" Or "Gloss Reduction" Overcoat.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein providing a user with a user-adjustable control includes providing a user with a user-adjustable control allowing page-to-page adjustment of achieved gloss levels.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein varying at least one parameter includes varying at least one parameter to provide the first user-selected gloss level over the first portion of the page of hard copy output and to provide a second user-selectable gloss level over a second portion of the page.

8. An apparatus for varying gloss in hard copy output from a hard copy output engine comprising:

a user interface facilitating user-adjustable variation of hard copy output gloss; and

a control mechanism configured to vary at least one processing parameter in producing the hard copy output in response to user adjustment of the user-adjustable control to provide a first user-selected gloss level over a first portion of a page of hard copy output.

9. The apparatus of claim 8, further comprising:

a sensor for sensing achieved gloss levels in hard copy output from the hard copy output engine; and

wherein the control mechanism configured to vary includes a control mechanism configured to vary at least one processing parameter in producing the hard copy output in response to both the sensed achieved gloss level and user adjustment of the user-adjustable control.

10. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the hard copy output engine employs dry powdered material as for pigmentation of the hard copy medium

11. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the control mechanism configured to vary includes a control mechanism configured to supply a gloss modification agent to the hard copy medium during generation of the hard copy output.

12. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the control mechanism configured to vary includes a control mechanism configured to vary at least one parameter chosen from a list consisting of: Toner Mass Density; Media Gloss; Fusing Temperature; Fusing Pressure; Fusing Time; Cooling Rate; Nip Geometry; Auxiliary Heat; Number Of Passes; selecting Use Of Multi-Gloss Toner; selecting Special Hard Copy Media Or Treatments; and Using Additional Toner Cartridge(s) For Applying A "Gloss Enhancement", "Gloss Modification" Or "Gloss Reduction" Overcoat.

13. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the user interface includes a user interface configured to provide a user with a user-adjustable control allowing page-to-page adjustment of achieved gloss levels.

14. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the user interface includes a user interface configured to provide the first user-selected gloss level over the first portion of the page of hard copy output and to provide a second user-selectable gloss level over a second portion of the page.

15. A computer implemented control system for a hard copy output engine, the system comprising processing circuitry coupled to the hard copy output engine and configured to:

provide a user interface configured to facilitate user-adjustable variation of hard copy output gloss; and

vary at least one processing parameter in producing the hard copy output in response to user adjustment of the user-adjustable control to provide a first user-selected gloss level over a first portion of a page of hard copy output.

16. The computer implemented control system of claim 15, wherein the processor configured to vary at least one processing parameter comprises a processor configured to

sense achieved gloss levels in hard copy output from the hard copy output engine; and

vary at least one processing parameter in producing the hard copy output in response to both the sensed achieved gloss level and user adjustment of the user-adjustable control.

17. The computer implemented control system of claim 15, wherein the processor configured to vary at least one processing parameter comprises a processor configured to supply a gloss modification agent to the hard copy medium during generation of the hard copy output.

18. The computer implemented control system of claim 15, wherein the processor configured to vary at least one processing parameter comprises a processor configured to vary at least one parameter chosen from a list consisting of: Toner Mass Density; Media Gloss; Fusing Temperature; Fusing Pressure; Fusing Time; Cooling Rate; Nip Geometry; Auxiliary Heat; Number Of Passes; selecting Use Of Multi-Gloss Toner; selecting Special Hard Copy Media Or Treatments; and Using Additional Toner Cartridge(s) For Applying A "Gloss Enhancement", "Gloss Modification" Or "Gloss Reduction" Overcoat.

19. The computer implemented control system of claim 15, wherein the processor configured vary at least one processing parameter comprises a processor configured to provide a user with a user-adjustable control allowing page-to-page adjustment of achieved gloss levels.

20. The computer implemented control system of claim 15, wherein the processor configured to vary at least one processing parameter comprises a processor configured to provide the first user-selected gloss level over the first portion of the page of hard copy output and to provide a second user-selectable gloss level over a second portion of the page.